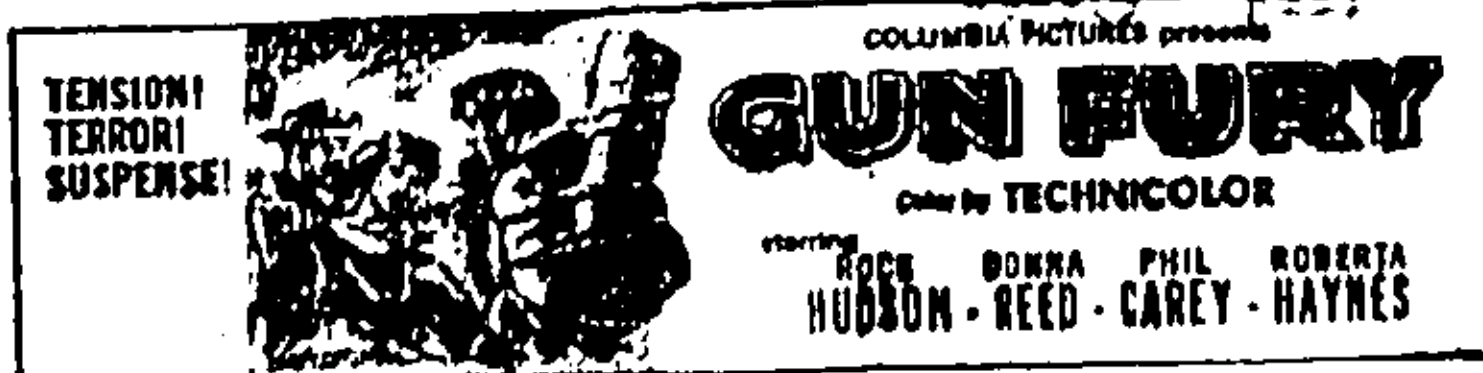


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OVERTURE:

"MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR"

Presented by M-G-M's Symphony Orchestra

COMMENCING TO-MORROW

M-G-M's first production

in 3-D

BROADWAY'S BIG HIT BECOMES A GREAT
M-G-M MUSICAL IN COLOR!



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ADDED ATTRACTION: CHORUS LINE
"THE FIRST PIANO QUARTET" by J. BRUXE

THE INDO-CHINA WAR

Small Skirmish
Led To All-Out
Operations

London, July 21.

The seven-year Indo-China war, which cost tens of thousands of lives and made millions homeless, began as a small, unimpressive skirmish between the French and Vietnamese in the strategic port of Haiphong in December 1946.

But its origins go back much further than that — to the Japanese occupation in World War Two.

In 1940 France, defeated in Europe, was forced to negotiate an agreement with Japan, allowing the Japanese to use northern Indo-China (Tonkin) as a base in their war against the Chinese.

Gradually the Japanese extended control over all Indo-China and on March 9, 1945, they overthrew the French administration and named Emperor Bao Dai head of the puppet state.

During the war a resistance movement against Japan came into being. It was largely composed of the Vietnamese — League for the Independence of Vietnam — with some Free French leaders and a handful of British and American liaison officers.

This force was supplied with American equipment by General Claire Chennault's China-based United States Air Force planes. On August 8, 1945, shortly before the end of the 'world war' the Vietnamese called for an insurrection and soon captured Hanoi.

TONKIN SEIZED

Later they seized complete control in Tonkin and set up a puppet government with Moscow-trained Ho Chi-minh, a professional revolutionary, as President of Vietnam.

Emperor Bao Dai was ousted and Ho took over a republic which included the Tonkin and Annam areas in the north and Cochinchina in the south. The independence of the "Democratic Republic of Vietnam" was declared on September 2.

The French Government, with only 3,000 troops in the territory in 1946, could not afford a clash with Ho's forces and was forced to compromise.

In a convention signed with Ho in March, 1946, France recognised "Vietnamese Republic" as an autonomous state within the French Union and the Indo-China federation.

In return Ho agreed that French troops should remain in Indo-China until the Chinese and Cochinchina in the north. He allowed the French into his capital, Hanoi.

DEMANDS REJECTED

Three months later Ho arrived in France to negotiate details of the convention and was received in Paris with military honours usually reserved for a visiting head of state.

But Ho's demands for total independence were rejected and he returned to Indo-China in August after signing an uneasy compromise based on the maintenance of the status quo.

Meanwhile a Vietnamese army was recruited and trained under Ho's close friend, General Vo Nguyen Giap, a bitterly anti-French former history teacher and an anti-Japanese guerrilla leader.

Then, in December 1946, two factors made war inevitable. Admiral Thierry Dargenville, France's Resident-General in Indo-China, set up a separate non-Communist government in Cochinchina, a move promptly attacked by Ho as a violation of the March agreement.

Fighting began and Ho took to the hills with his army. War was on, and Ho declared that it "will be long and difficult."

SPORADIC ATTACKS

By February, 1947, the French had pushed Ho's forces from the Hanoi area. The Vietnamese, ill equipped, were driven 500 miles back to the Chinese frontier by October. But the French failed to bring Ho's main force to battle.

For three years mainly guerrilla fighting went on, with sporadic attacks by Vietnamese and French counter-attacks.



Prince Bao Dai, former president of the Vietnam Government, hands over a box containing parchment and state seals to the new President, Ngo Dinh Diem, his successor. — Express Photo.

B.O.T. To Consider
Return Of
Jap Trade Marks

London, July 20.

The Board of Trade announced here today that the British Government had decided to consider the return to their owners of more than 100 Japanese trade marks seized during the war.

A statement by the Board, announcing this, said the return of each trade mark would be considered on its merits and that British and Allied firms would have the opportunity of protesting.

The statement said: "At the outbreak of war with Japan in 1941, there were a hundred or so trade marks on the United Kingdom register of trade marks, the proprietors of which were Japanese enemies."

"These marks remained on the register during the war in the names of the Japanese proprietors and have since been vested in the custodian of enemy property for England. "Subject to the protection of British and other Allied interests, it is now intended to clear the register of such of these marks as need no longer remain registered and to return most of the remainder to the former Japanese proprietors or their successors in title."

ON MERITS

"The marks will be treated individually. The custodian will consider each case on its merits and makes no general promise that any particular mark will be cancelled or returned."

The statement said that the Japanese proprietors of trade marks or their successors in title should request the assignment of the marks to them by the custodian.

An opportunity would then be given to "British and other Allied interests" to object to any such assignment.

RE-REGISTRATION

The statement added that if a prima facie case were made out against the return of any mark the custodian, failing an acceptable agreement between the parties concerned, would not assign the mark to the former proprietor.

The same applied if the mark had been registered since December 8, 1924.

A proprietor, refused the return of his mark could, however, apply to the Registrar of Trade Marks for a re-registration.

The Registrar would then consider cancelling the existing registration to allow the application to proceed. — Reuter.

ANGLO-AMERICAN
ART BODY
MOTED

London, July 20.

A British, Peter, Lord Trefarne, suggested today that an Anglo-American body should be set up for joint ownership of works of art and historical monuments of priceless value to both countries.

He said the Government should consider forming such a body if it could not curb the continuing export of these valuable possessions to the United States.

The suggestion was contained in a question Lord Trefarne, an independent peer, gave notice he would ask in the House of Lords.

He instanced the recent export across the Atlantic of the famous 'Geddes' Washington Treasures, Napoleon and Talleyrand. — China Mail.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

Special Times To-day: 2.30—5.15—7.30 & 9.40 p.m.



PERFECT IN THE CINEMASCOPE MANNER!
RAY MILLAND - GRACE KELLY - ROBERT CUMMINGS

NEXT ! IT'S NEW - DIFFERENT!
CHANGE ! "NEW FACES"
In Cinemascope and Glorious Color

LEE * GREAT WORLD

DAILY AT 2.30,
5.30, 7.30 &
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CARNIVAL STORY

ANNE BAXTER - STEVE COCHRAN - LYLE BETTIGER - GEORGE HADLER
TECHNICOLOR

★ TO-MORROW ★

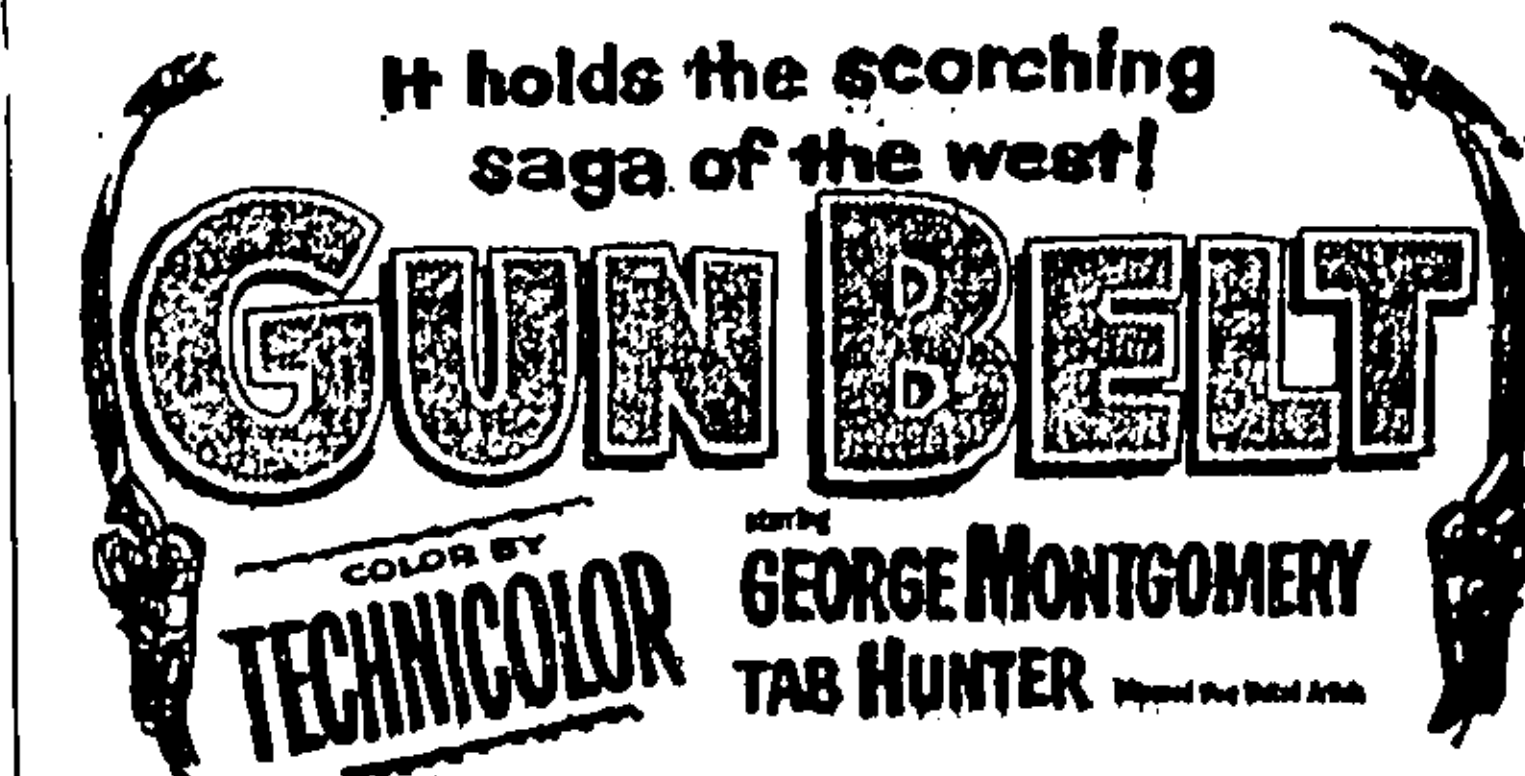


STANLEY ROCK
HUDSON
MURDER
HENDERSON
STEVE
COCHRAN

A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

HOOVER

TO-DAY ONLY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.



STARTING TO-MORROW, THURSDAY
FIRST CHINESE PICTURE ON WIDE SCREEN

"THE LOVE OF SUSAN"

From the famous Chinese Opera "YU TONG CHUN"
Starring: Lai Yee, Yuch Ling & Wong Yun Loong

TO-DAY ONLY **MAJESTIC** AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



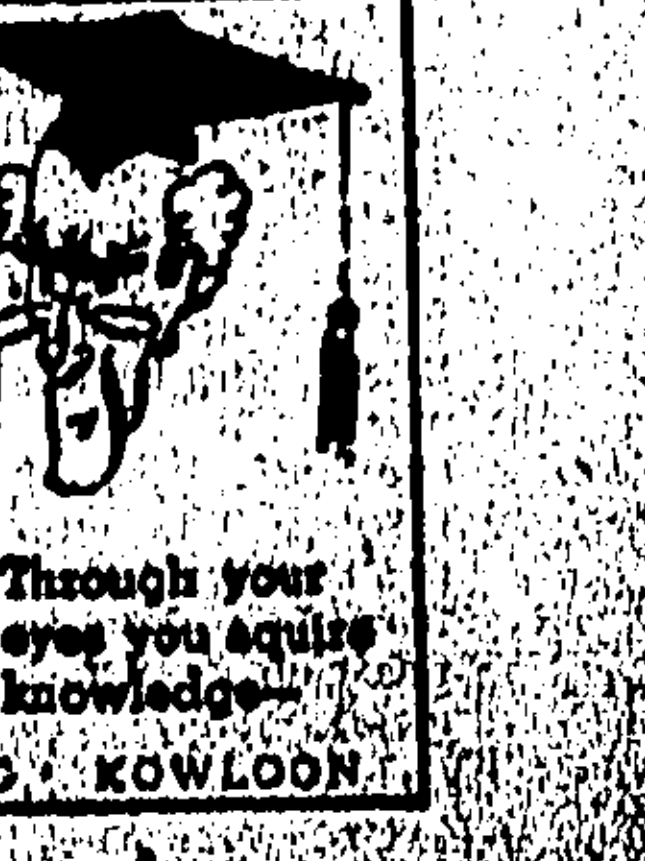
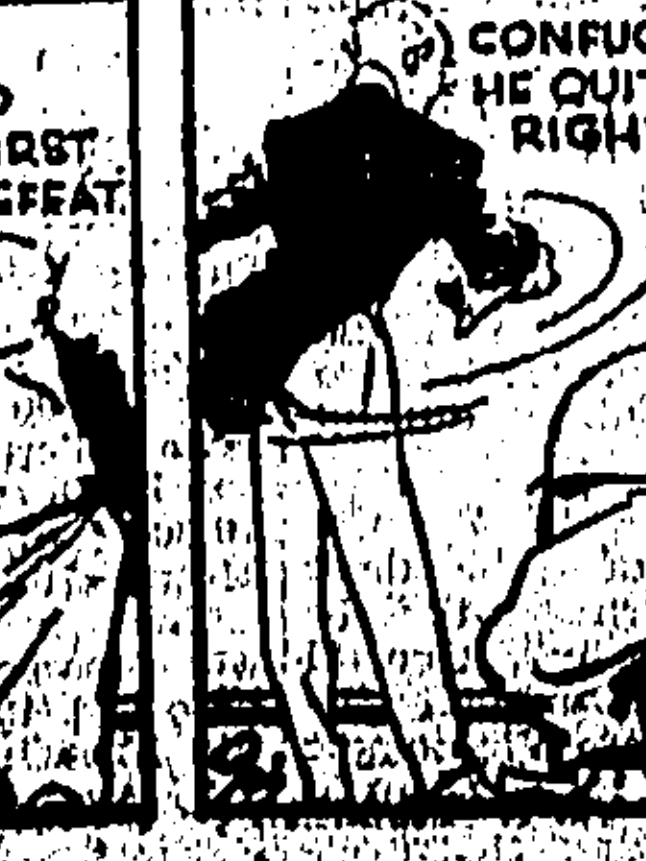
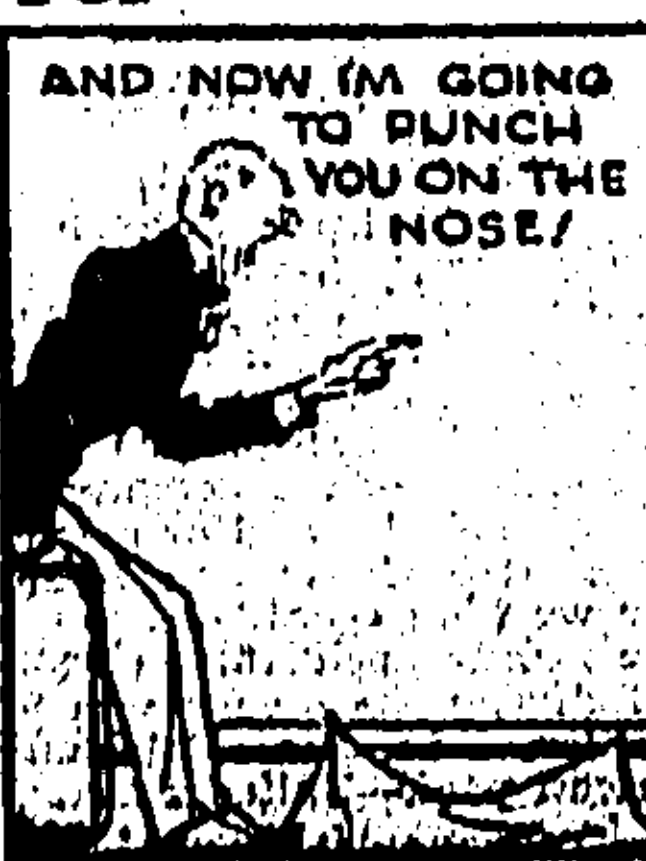
OPENS TO-MORROW! Anna Neagle in "ODETTE"

OPENS TO-MORROW AT THE **Cathay** AIR-CONDITIONED



ALSO: "SECRETS OF BEAUTY QUEENS"

POP



"THANK YOU" FROM GUARD

London, July 20. Taking snapshots of each other smiling, coyly, if they are pretty girls and triumphantly if they are small boys, beside a towering, aloof sentry outside Buckingham Palace is a popular tourist's pastime at this time of year.

One American schoolboy, with one of the latest all-in-pocket cameras, won what might have been interpreted as an astonished "Thank you" from the unblinking eyes of one sentry.

He snapped the guardmen, twiddled a few knobs on the camera and placed the picture in the sentry box developed and printed in 60 seconds.—China Mail Special.

THE HAGUE TALKS**Withdrawal Of Delegates Demanded**

Prakaria, July 20. A strong Nationalist group in New Guinea issued a statement today demanding the Indonesian delegation to the talks on the Dutch union in The Hague be withdrawn immediately since the future of New Guinea is not being discussed.

Antea News Agency said that the "Liberation Movement" in West Irian (New Guinea) said the Dutch refusal to discuss N.W. Guinea had been planned previously by the Dutch as a "challenge" to the people of Indonesia.

The group also urged the local government to immediately institute provincial administration for the territory.

Meanwhile, Otto Rondonuwu, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs section of the Indonesian Parliament, said that there were only three ways open to settle the dispute:

1. Wait until the Indonesian people lose their patience.
2. Bring the question up before the United Nations.
3. Open warfare to win independence for the territory.—United Press.

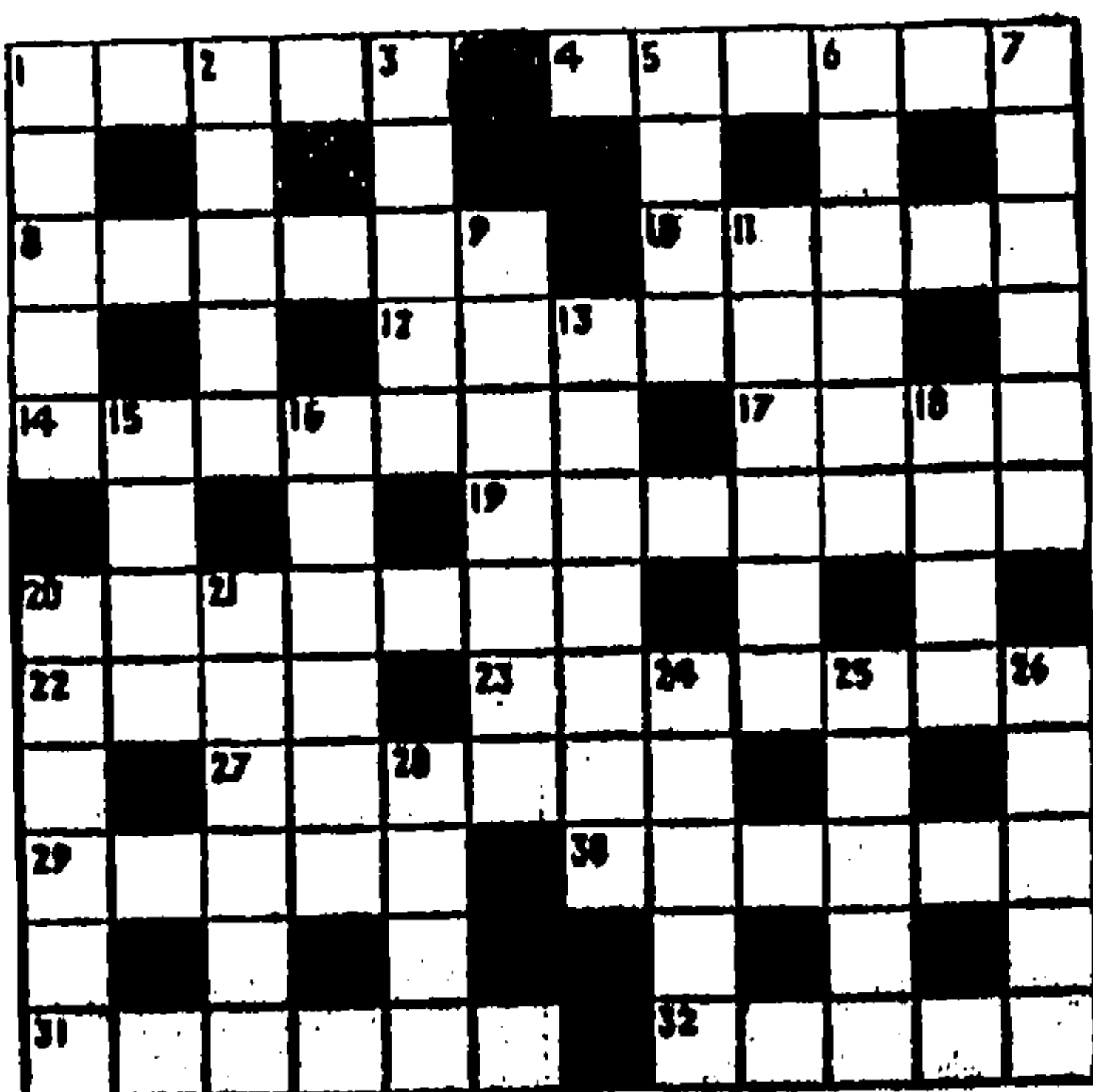
HUNGARIAN CITY FLOODED

Vienna, July 20. Győr, Hungary's second largest industrial city, was described today as "a besieged fortress" in the midst of widespread floods.

The Communist newspaper, Szabad Nép, reported all factories had stopped working and that there was a serious shortage of drinking water.

Budapest Radio said a third of the city had been flooded. A state of emergency declared last Friday is still in force.

Elsewhere in Hungary, crops have been ruined, herds of deer and other game drowned and houses and roads swept away.—Router.

A British Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- Knocks (5).
- Haphazard (6).
- Method (6).
- Obtains as reward of labour (6).
- Belt (6).
- Call together (7).
- Culmination (4).
- Warded off (7).
- Clange (7).
- Flower (4).
- Rubbing out (7).
- Soup ingredient (6).
- Cunning (6).
- Han off (6).
- Clant cats (6).
- Correspond (6).

DOWN

- Fundamental (5).
- Worker in stone (6).
- Lengthy attack on fortified place (5).
- Imitated (4).
- Straightforward (6).
- Failed to hit (6).
- Mosque tower (7).
- Startles (6).
- Day-dream (7).
- Past (4).
- Ship (6).
- Niggardly (4).
- Dwaver (6).
- Hit (6).
- Deal out (5).
- Drive (6).
- Dizzy (6).
- Night (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 3 Bulletin, 8 Trap, 9 Deducted, 11 Provided, 13 Cleb, 16 Daffodil, 18 Talent, 19 Byre, 21 Vendetta, 23 Realities, 26 Full, 27 Troops, 28 Down: 1 Stop, 2 Dado, 4 Used, 6 Total, 7 Nudge, 9 Divot, 10 Devil, 12 Ready, 14 Exact, 15 Dares, 17 Leads, 19 Bury, 20 Realm, 21 Vice, 22 Neat, 23 True, 24 Ally.

Cyprus Plebiscite**No 'Anti-Colonial' Label Expected From Dulles**

Washington, July 20.

Highly reliable sources said today that the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, has still to give his opinion on Greece's appeal to the United Nations for a plebiscite in Cyprus but they considered it unlikely he would attach an "anti-colonial" label to this matter.

Greece recently inscribed the question of a plebiscite for Cyprus to see if the majority of inhabitants wanted to join Greece on the next United Nations Assembly agenda.

The sources said so far it would seem that the United States will take a rigorously neutral attitude as she would not want to offend Britain, Greece or Turkey.

They said that Turkey, which is against the plebiscite due to the Turkish population in Cyprus, has not made an official demarche here but in informal official talks has made it quite clear she thinks the Greek appeal to the United Nations is most unfortunate and has inquired if the United States can do anything about it.

They understood Turkey, despite her very friendly relations with Greece, does not want the Turkish population in Cyprus to come under Greek sovereignty.

Campaign To Wipe Out Christianity

Hanoi, July 20.

The Vietnamese have launched a campaign to wipe out the influence of Christianity in the southern zone of the Red River delta of Northern Indo-China which the French evacuated three weeks ago, a highly placed French official said here today.

Vietnamese troops were driving peasants from their rice paddies in the fervently Roman Catholic Binh Province for deportation to the mountains along the western rim of the delta for "de-Christianisation," he added.

The fields had been given to favoured people, mainly from far away provinces. The high official said that in Nam Dinh, a cathedral town of another province, the Vietnamese had hung a large picture of their leader, Ho Chi-minh, outside the cathedral.

The picture had a bleeding heart punctured by an arrow and the inscription "Catholics have been unkind to Father Ho."

Catholics were forced to kneel every day before the cathedral and pray for Ho Chi-minh, the official said.—Router.

Russians Attend Espionage Commission

Some of the Anti-Communist Russians with their posters and flags which declare they hate Communism and offering friendly greetings to the Petrova, in front of the Australia High Court Building during the hearing in Melbourne of the Royal Commission into Espionage. Express Photo.

S.E.A. Pact's Unsolved Problems

London, July 20.

Problems so far unsolved by the Anglo-American study group on a South-east Asia security pact will be tackled anew by the two governments, now the results of the Geneva Indo-China talks are known.

The group completed a report last week in Washington and a copy has now reached the Foreign Office for study.

A Foreign Office spokesman said that it contained a list of recommendations to the two governments.

But the group is not believed to have solved one fundamental difference of approach between London and Washington. The question of how long the actual establishment of a South-east Asia defence pact should be delayed in the hope of securing the backing of independent Asian opinion.

Since proposals to establish the pact were first made last April by the United States Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, Britain has been unwilling to take more than exploratory steps until the outcome of the Geneva conference was known.—Router.

U.S.-FORMOSA PACT TALKS

Washington, July 20.

Mr Karl Rastlin, Nationalist Chinese, said today that informal discussions on a mutual defence treaty between the United States and the Chiang Kai-shek Government had taken place in Washington and Taipei recently.

He made this statement after meeting with President Eisenhower at the White House.—Router.

CLYDE SALVAGE

Glasgow, July 20.

Two big British naval salvage ships and six other craft are preparing to refloat the French destroyer, Malle Brée, sunk in the River Clyde during the early days of World War II.—China Mail Special.

British Cabinet Reshuffle Anticipated

London, July 21.

British Parliamentarians waited today to see whether Sir Winston Churchill will reshuffle his Government following Sir Thomas Dugdale's dramatic resignation yesterday from the post of Agriculture Minister.

The Prime Minister is said to have been considering a reconstruction for some time as several members of his Cabinet are believed anxious to return to private life.

One is Mr Oliver Lyttelton, the Colonial Secretary. Salaries of up to £20,000 a year are said to have been offered him by the business world from which, Sir Winston Churchill first brought him during the second world war.

Another is Sir Walter Monckton, 63, Labour Minister and one of the world's most famous constitutional lawyers. Sir Walter's health is said to be indifferent but he is in any case credited with a desire to return to the bar.

EARL ALEXANDER

A third whose retirement would surprise few people is Earl Alexander, 62, the Defence Minister.

Seventy-year-old Lord Woolton, who occupies the non-departmental post of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, is another who is reported to be anxious to retire. He had a serious illness two years ago.

All these four Ministers are members of the Cabinet and their replacement would involve a general switch in Ministerial posts.

Politicians think a likely choice for Colonial Secretary would be Mr Harold Macmillan, 60, once Junior Colonial Minister. He is credited with great administrative ability and with having made a big success of his job as Minister of Housing and Local Government.

DUNCAN SANDYS

Mr Duncan Sandys, 46, son-in-law of the Prime Minister and at present Minister of Supply, is tipped as possible for the Defence Ministry but the appointment of successors to Sir Walter Monckton and Lord Woolton opens up a wide field and a number of names have been mentioned.

Parliamentarians suggest Sir Thomas Dugdale may be replaced at the Ministry of Agriculture by the present Minister of Food—Major Gwilym Lloyd George, whose Ministry has lost its importance with the recent end of British rationing and may in time be merged with the Ministry of Agriculture.

HOUSE STARTLED

Sir Thomas Dugdale resigned after a controversy involving the rights of the individual against civil service "bureaucracy."

His resignation started the House of Commons, where he had earlier outlined measures, including the disciplining of a senior civil servant, which more than satisfied his critics.

The controversy was over what they called the "servants of the State" or "civil servants" of the Government. This has been a long-standing issue in the House of Commons and has been a subject of much discussion.

French-India Possession Blockaded

New Delhi, July 20.

Karnikal, France's second largest possession in India, is expected to fall shortly to Indian nationalists who have blockaded the territory, according to reports reaching here today.

Indian refugees from Karnikal had stopped traffic on all roads leading into the territory and planned to picket goods trains, reports from nearby Negapatnam stated.

It was expected that this economic stranglehold on Karnikal—a 53-square-mile territory with a population of 70,000, about 100 miles south of Pondicherry on India's south-east coast—would force the French to yield the territory to Indian nationalists.

A similar blockade of the French territory of Mahé on India's west coast recently forced France to yield administration to local nationalists.—Router.

Search For Toll Posts

London, July 20.

A rusty old cast-iron post found by a party of Barristers on Epsom Downs race-course has started off a search for some of London's forgotten history which will take them 20 miles out on all sides of the town.

The only clue on the post is a deep-buried inscription which reads "24 and 25 Vic Cap 42". This referred to an Act of Parliament continuing duties levied on coal and wine by the Corporation of London in 1601.

The Barristers found that duties of "one penny and twopence a ton" were advertised by the City Corporation on all coals and wine brought to within 20 miles of the General Post Office in the city.

So now the Barristers are looking for the other toll posts which the City Corporation maintained in the 17th century.

EMPIRE HELD OVER TODAY
THREE SHOWS ONLY
At 2.30, 5.15 & 7.15 p.m.



TO-MORROW
Alan Ladd in "HELL BELOW ZERO"

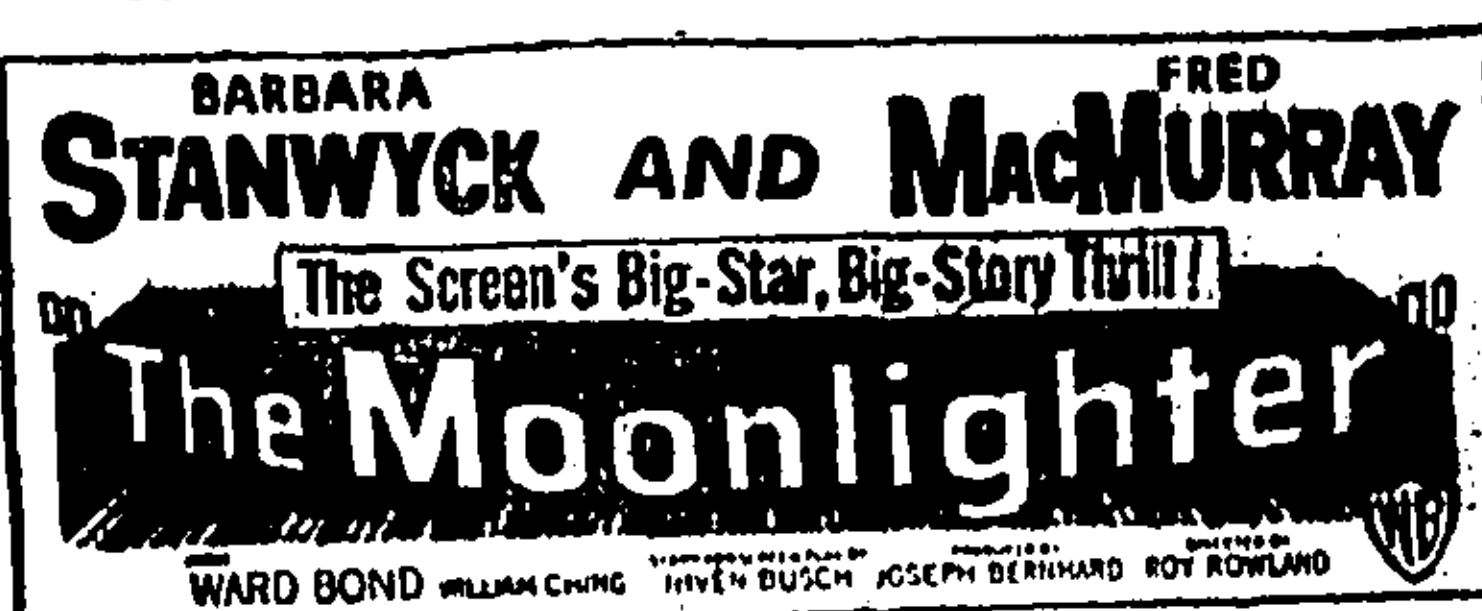
SHOWING TO-DAY
2.30-5.30-7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

ON OUR NEW GIANT WIDE SCREEN!



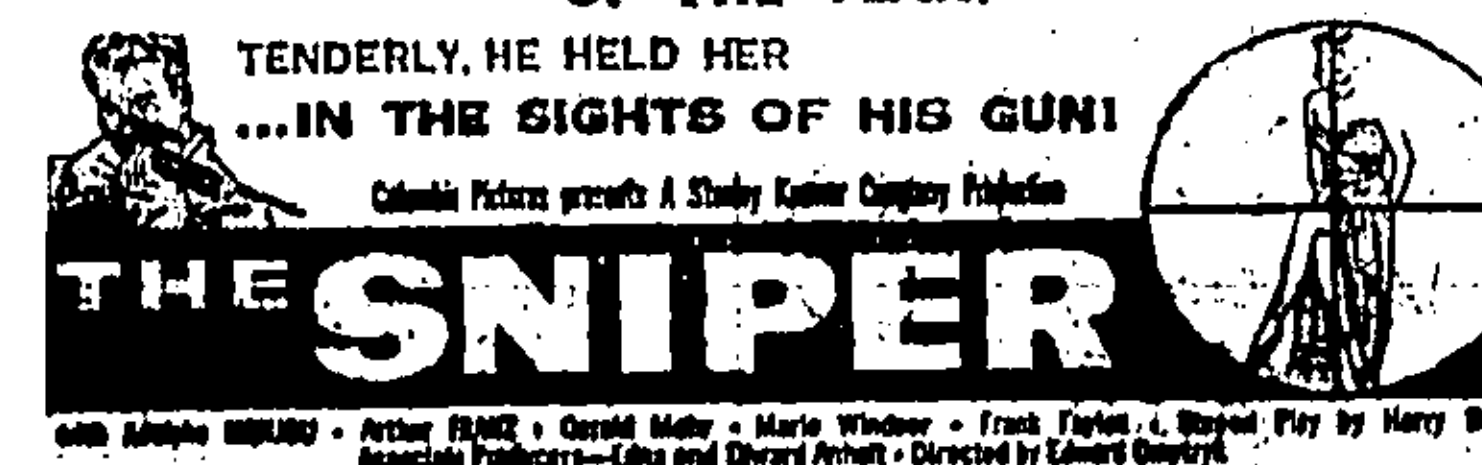
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Pure joy flooded Bader—he was flying again!

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SO FAR—

Douglas Bader, now walking normally on two metal legs after losing his own in an air crash, spends his sick leave with his old squadron at Kenley. While there, Sir Philip Sassoon, Under-Secretary of State for Air, invites him for a week-end to his house at Lympne. Bader insists that he is fit to fly again, and to his joy Sassoon arranges for him to take up an Avro 504 as a test.

IN the morning it felt wonderful just to be putting on overalls, helmet and goggles again and to be walking up to a well-remembered Avro.

Getting into the cockpit was not the trouble he thought it might be. He put his foot into the slot at the side of the rear cockpit and Pilot-Officer Ross, his fellow-guest at Lympne, gave him a shove up. Then, clutching the leather-padded rim of the cockpit with his left hand, it was simple to grab his right calf and swing it over into the seat.

He eased himself down, delighting instantly in the old familiar smell of an Avro cockpit, the blend of castor oil, dope, leather and metal that rolled the months back more subtly and potently than any other sense.

Sitting in the familiar seat, eyeing instruments and crash-pad and taking the stick in his hand, sent a flush of enchantment through him. He set each foot on the rudder-bar and pushed each end in turn—it was easy; nerveless in the foot but sensitive in the shin and right

thigh. He'd literally be flying by the seat of his pants.

Ross climbed into the front and shortly his voice came through the earphones: "Shall I start her up from here, Douglas?"

"No," he said; "just turn on your switches and take your hands off. Leave everything alone. I'll do it."

The Huck starter backed up and turned the propeller; the warmed-up engine caught smoothly and the Avro, the aeroplane was quivering with life.

Pure joy flooded him; he knew already he was completely at home. At about 55 m.p.h. he let her come gently off the grass, climbed a little, turned and circled the aerodrome and then cleared the runway. The old touch was back and as she cruised over the familiar fields he was sublimely happy. A circuit over Kenley and then he was waiting in to land. This was the acid test.

It was simple

SHE swayed and dipped docilely as he nursed her with delicate and quick little movements of stick and rudder so easily that he did not notice how simple and automatic it was to hold her straight.

Quite unconscious of the legs he flattened, held back, back, back, and then she touched gently on three points. On the landing run he was conscious of his legs again but held her straight with ease and turned and taxied to the tarmac apron in front of the squadron's hangar, full of satisfaction.

After an extremely cheery lunch in the mess, Bader flew Ross in the Avro back to Lympne and made another neat landing. That afternoon he was happier than he could remember.

Bader's medical board gave him a restricted grading which did not allow him to fly solo. His friends with the waitress at the Pankies was ripening, but he still did not know her name when she told him she was going back to live with her parents in London. Then he was posted to the Central Flying School at Wittering for a report on his ability to fly.

One last time he drove to the Pantiles and said to the girl when she arrived:

"I'm going away, too."

"Oh," she said, sounding politely interested but not at all crushed.

"Going up north to Wittering to start flying again." He tried to be offhand about it, but she clearly guessed its importance because she smiled with pleasure and said: "Oh, you'll like that, won't you? I am glad."

This was the moment. He said, trying to sound casual again:

"I was wondering if you'd care to come out with me one

were Air Force officers and she had asked them a lot of questions about the interesting young man who had lost his legs. Bader did not discover that till later, when he also found that her father had been a wing commander, that her step-father was a colonel and that the girl had been a young woman of leisure until her beloved pet dog had died and she had gone to stay with a grandmother and taken the Pantiles job to get her mind off her grief about the dog.

For a while he was too joyfully occupied at Wittering to get up to London.

Then, promised a week-end's leave, he wrote to Thelma. Would she care to go out with him to the Cafe de Paris on Saturday night? A decorous note came back accepting and asking if he would care to call for tea beforehand.

On the Saturday morning he set out early in the MG, a little boiled shirt and tie in a little case. Avonmore Mansions, he found, was six storeys high and the flat was on the sixth floor. There was no lift. Carrying his case, he dot-and-carried up the stairs, twelve flights, ninety-six steps. He counted them, and arrived at the top breathless and heart pumping. As he rang the bell he wondered what it was going to be like.

The door opened and a uniformed maid showed him into a pleasantly furnished sitting-room where the girl, looking very fetching in a green dress, rose from the sofa. He'd never seen her without the never seen her without the waitress overall on before. She introduced him to her mother, who looked young and agreeable, and a tall, lean man her step-father, Lieutenant-colonel Addison. The girl leaned over the tea things and asked, with a tiny smile, "Cream or milk?" and after that he felt very much at home.

A question....

LATER, feeling debonair in tails for the first time since the crash, he took her to the Cafe de Paris in a taxi. The dinner was good, the girl was charming, and sitting at the little table for two with his legs tucked safely away beneath the music lifting away in a straight, pre-war rhythm stimulated a mood of glowing ease. The spur of the moment he leaned over and said: "Would you like to dance?"

Thelma Edwards, 12, Avonmore Mansions, Kensington, W. 14.

"Oh, thanks awfully," he said, relieved. "My name's Douglas Bader."

(She had known that for weeks. Three of her cousins



"It's quite easy," said Bader. "If I trip, I hang on to the girl."

Just for a moment she looked uncertain and then she smiled and nodded.

He got up and lurched round to help her up. He hadn't meant to dance at all; the idea had just slipped out but there was no drawing back and suddenly reckless he thought: "Damn it, I can walk all right, I can certainly walk clucking a girl."

"I didn't know you danced too," she said appreciatively as they reached the floor.

"Oh, it's quite easy," he said shyly. "If I trip I hang on to the girl."

He took her in his arms, waited a moment for the beat of the music and then hopefully lurched off.

It came off

It was quite easy—If not especially graceful. He held her a little away to give him space for kicking the right leg forward and for a while he was really only walking in approximate time to the music, steering round the bends still in a walk, but it was so uncomplimentary that it was almost an anti-climax. Emboldened he tried a mildly fancy turn and it came off. He tried another one and stumbled but instantly she was unobtrusively steadying him and they danced on. "You seem very good at supporting men," he grinned.

After a couple of numbers they were moving round the floor quite impressively until suddenly he collided with her and she came to a dead stop, her face tight with pain.

"What's the matter?" he asked anxiously. "Are you all right?"

"Yes," she said, torn by apology; "but you're standing on my left foot."

He jumped off in horror, torn by apology himself.

They went off the floor arm-in-arm and as he dot-and-carried up the two shallow steps to their table his other hand

missed the banister and he over-balanced backwards, nearly bringing her down with him. People turned round and stared down their noses as if he were drunk.

She helped him up and they got to the table where he grinned to cover up his inward mortification—he had never fallen in front of her before. She leaned across and put her hand on his arm. "You know, I think you're really amazing," she said. "It was the first time she had ever even obliquely referred to the loss of his legs, and she did it so warmly and naturally that it really endeared her to him."

They danced several more times after that and he blissfully ignored the fact that his legs were aching and that patches on the stumps were rubbing raw. About 2 a.m. he took her home, bade her a decorous good-night and drove off very pleased with himself in the MG to the RAF Club where he had to tape the chafed patches on his stumps before he went to bed. On the Sunday he took her for a drive in the MG and unobtrusively she managed to convey to him that she genuinely admired the way he drove and got around on his legs. Driving back to Wittering that night he was sure he had found the girl he wanted.

Next week-end he drove to London again and took her to the Ace of Spades roadhouse near the Kingston Bypass. They danced again, and on the way back he stopped the car and kissed her. (She had been wondering when he was going to do that.) To his delight, after an appropriate time, she kissed him back.

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"Reach for the Sky" by Paul Brickhill, is published by Collins.

★

SATURDAY:
The wing commander cleared his throat. "I'm sorry," he said....

NATHANIEL GUBBINS

HOW many of my lucky readers will be alive 60 years from now?

Probably more than you think. Apart from young people on the threshold of the hell to come thousands of middle-aged boys and girls may expect to wake to the cries of "Happy birthday to you" sometime in the year 2004, thanks to modern sanitation, the advance of medical science, and the high cost of living which prevents the lower-income groups from eating themselves to death.

Some may not hear the greeting because they will be deaf, others because their great-grandchildren, tired of paying high taxes to keep the old folk's retirement pensions going, won't wish them a happy birthday (and certainly not "many happy returns"); but most because of the noise of helicopters buzzing round the Old Folk's Home.

By 2004 every noisy fool who owns a motor-cycle now will have his counterpart owning a helicopter. Visitors will arrive in them, hovering outside bedroom windows, and a centenarian, straining his enormous ears to catch the birthday wishes of his loving relations, will hear something like this (with background curses from one tired of paying taxes):

"Happy—buzz, whirr, buzz—birthday—buzz—blast you buzz birthday—buzz whirr—to you—blast you damn you buzz buzz—you immortal old buzzard—buzz buzz."

But this will be only the first of a merry day full of exciting adventures planned for the dear old chap.

According to Mr Robert le Baron, chairman of the American Military Liaison Committee, some aircraft that will remain in the air 300 hours without refuelling will be commonplace in 60 years' time. They will be able to fly round and round the world non-stop at speeds approaching 2,000 miles an hour.

Waste flission products will be used to kill bacteria in food (and so keep the old folk alive longer for more fun), though Mr le Baron admits that most of the flavours people like in food are due to bacteria.

So, after the birthday greeting by helicopter, the centenarian will be taken out for the day following a breakfast of flissionised porridge and eggs lasting of nothing at all. He will be dragged out of his bed,

forced into the roaring helicopter, and flown to the nearest airfield, where he will be pushed, protesting, into an aircraft which will take him twice round the world before supper.

At 2,000 miles an hour at a height of 50,000 feet he will have flissionised biscuits and coffee over the Atlantic, a flissionised lunch over California, a flissionised birthday cake over the Pacific, and probably be sick the second time round over China.

As they carry him unconscious from the aircraft in England his loving relations will say:

"It's been too much for the poor old fellow."

"I've always said that once round the world in a day is enough for a man of his age."

"Why not send him round again?" the relative tired of paying taxes will ask.

Prettiest Deb

WHO is the prettiest debutante of 1954?

After looking at the photographs of some of the girls who are being launched like ships down a greased runway into the social whirl instead of into the sea, I would vote for Lottie the Devil Cat.

You might argue that Lottie is not a debutante in the strict meaning of the word. Her father was neither distinguished nor rich. In fact, his identity is unknown, a circumstance that would disqualify Lottie for presentation at Court. Her mother never harked her round society with a marriage price on her head. It is doubtful if her mother even remembers her existence.

But Lottie is a debutante in the sense that the summer is her social season. Like the girls who are on view to a curious crowd as they wait in the cars to be presented at Court, Lottie is on view on the window-sill of the Sea Nest, praised and admired by visitors, who pause in their walk along the front to tickle her ears and cry, "Oh, what a beautiful pussy."

So far as praise is concerned she is probably more fortunate than the debutantes under public scrutiny in the Mall. When I once had the misfortune to write a report on this vulgar scene the remarks of the people who poked their heads through the car windows and stared imperiously at the embarrassed occupants as if they were judging cattle were not always complimentary.

Sometimes a woman would squeak, "Oh, isn't she lovely," but more often they would shout, "She weighs 12st. If she wouldn't stand a chance with my Elsie," or, "That snooty one with the long neck looks like a camel."

But Lottie, the debutante, hears nothing but praise. Her eyes are "like green, head-lamps," her "short-nosed profile is perfect," her "shining fur is in wonderful condition." In every way she is "different" from other cats.

She is also different from other debutantes. According to my information a debutante is launched only three times if she has been unlucky in the marriage market on the other two occasions. Lottie has launched herself into public favour for six consecutive summers without gathering her head about marriage markets.

Moreover, she must be the only debutante who has fallen flat on her back in public to have her stomach "stroked," and (one hopes) the only debutante who has been the mother of four kittens.

[World Copyright]

POCKET CARTOON by OSBERT LANCASTER



"Of course I realize that life in the Russian Foreign Service must be terribly harassing," but there are moments when I miss the peace of my own country."

BILL WATERTON relives the days of 'the order-book battle' in the final chapter of his ten-years-a-test pilot story—FLYING INTO DANGER

THE GENERAL 'EXPLODED' AT ME...

WHEN World War II ended Britain had an overwhelming lead in jet aircraft and engines. Britain also had a tremendous national debt.

The economic position was desperate. Everything which could possibly be sold abroad was to be exported. And one thing we could certainly sell abroad was jet aircraft.

Our jet fighters were then the best in the world. We held records to prove it. The Americans, thanks to the secrets of jet-fighter development with which we had provided them, were coming along fast—but in 1947-8 they could not yet complete with us.

What they were doing instead was unloading surplus piston-driven aircraft on to the smaller Powers, who had begun to clamour for military planes; by virtually giving them away they were able to sell the spares to keep them going.

Steaks for them

These outdated planes were beginning to get tired of flying. The best cure for a "tired" plane is a new one. We had the new ones and they were not sold.

the world's finest aircraft showed them off to Air Ministers and Service chiefs from many parts of the world. The jets, the Vampire, made by de Havilland, and Gloster's much-faster Meteor, stole the show.

It was my job as Gloster's chief test pilot to take the Meteor into the air and show what I could do; and then come down and talk about it with the customer.

And then, when the time came, go out and fly it in the customer's home sky and teach his pilots how to handle it. So it was that we sold Meteors to the Argentine, that country had the newest Meteor in its service with its air force before the R.A.F. At one time there were more Meteors flying for Peron than for us.

The Argentine pilots, a dashingly and charming bunch of young men, came over to learn to fly them. They brought their own doctor, who ordered from home a regular planeload of steaks and chocolate drinks to keep up their stamina against the rigours of the English climate—and rationing.

They were also given liberal allowances and most of them bought M. G. cars or B. S. A. mopeds, and turned up for instruction each morning driving in formation—often down the wrong side of the road.

pilots flew Meteors—well and without accidents.

In this way too we sold Meteors to Holland, Belgium, Denmark, France, Egypt, and later to Syria, Israel and Brazil. We trained pilots and delivered scores of aircraft, all safely.

One big order we did not get was from Turkey; but it was not due to lack of quality in our aircraft or enterprise.

We had heard that Turkey, building up her postwar strength as a protection against her Russian neighbour, was in the market for fighter planes and had the money to buy them.

The Spitfires and Mosquitoes with which we had previously supplied them were ripe for replacement.

My red jet

THE Americans were hungry for Turkish orders, but just had not jet-plane ready for delivery abroad.

It was a big chance for us. So Gloster built the first two-seater Meteor trainer, strikingly painted in camouflaged white, and I tested it and flew it across Europe to Turkey—the first time a jet had ever made such a journey.

The Turks were delighted and President Inonu came out to watch me give a demonstration.

All planes in the vicinity of Istanbul, the civil airport of Istanbul, were either grounded

or warned to keep away while I took my red jet into the air.

Even a Swiss airliner, filled with passengers, was temporarily grounded so that the sky would be kept clear for me.

Solid cloud at low altitude covered the sky. This ruled out loops and vertical manoeuvres. I decided to keep my repertoire to low altitude rolls, that turns at high and low speeds, and close-to-the-ground sprints.

I was only a few feet from the ground, and flying upside down over the crowd, when I saw to my horror that there was another plane—dead ahead of me and not very far away.

As I reeled round frantically to avoid a collision I noticed that the intruder was a U.S. Air Force B17 (Flying Fortress). It was not in radio contact with me and it seemed determined to go on flying around the airfield.

That finished my aerobatics. Much too dangerous with other aircraft close. But the Americans are not the ones to pass up a smart sales trick, and as a Canadian was working for a British firm I did not see why I should either.

So, with the throttle wide open, I went round and round the airfield—and passed the Flying Fortress three times while it managed to do only a half-circuit itself.

The Turks saw what a British jet-fighter could do by way of catching a bomber.

started something. There was a Yank general aboard that plane, and he's just exploded to the Press. He says you nearly took his wings off. You must have frightened him."

A few hours later I was summoned to the British Embassy. The Americans, who had been unloading outmoded aircraft on the Turks, were not exactly overjoyed at my display, and the incident of the Flying Fortress lacerated their wounds with salt.

But it was all smoothed out. We did not get the Turkish order, but we did get an excellent lunch out of Sir David Kelly, the British Ambassador.

Our rivals

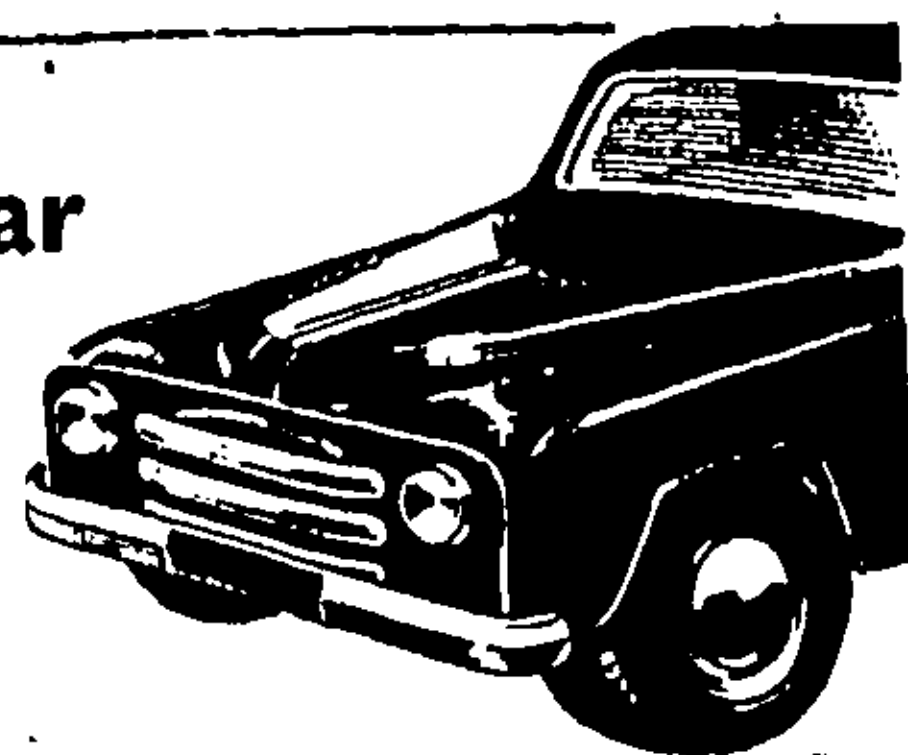
DO not misunderstand me about the Americans. In those postwar years the competition for orders was fierce, and it so happened that our aircraft were better than those of our rivals.

That is not the position now. We had the jet-fighter lead then. Now it belongs to the Americans with their Sabre and the newer Super Sabre F100, which can exceed the speed of sound in level flight and is being produced in numbers now.

The Americans are born salesmen. They get mad when you steal an order from under them, but their resentment does not last long.

I hope it will not be long before we produce the fighter planes for the foreign market that will steal the orders from them once again.

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JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Teamwork Will Pay Bridge Dividends

By OSWALD JACOBY

EAST was ready to bid two diamonds over North's response of one spade. It was possible, however, that hearts would turn out to be a better suit than diamonds. East therefore doubled to ask his partner to choose between the two unbid suits.

If West had four hearts, they would be safe in that suit. Otherwise, East would almost surely be able to scramble out safely at two diamonds, and would therefore be no worse off than if he had had two diamonds to begin with.

East should have had a better hand for his takeout double, but it is perfectly possible to use shaded takeout doubles of this kind with an understanding partner. In this case, West could tell from the strong bidding of his vulnerable opponents that the double had been rather light. Hence West refrained from any energetic action.

The takeout double had an important effect on the opening lead. East had indicated support for both of the red suits, and it was unthinkable that East would use the takeout double unless he had good four-card

NORTH		17
♠ K Q 9 8 5		
♥ 7 4 2		
♦ Q 10 9		
♣ A		
WEST		
♠ J 4 2		
♥ A Q 5		
♦ 4 3		
♣ 10 8 7 4 3		
EAST		
♠ 10 8 7		
♥ K 9 8 6		
♦ A J 8 7 6 2		
♣ A None		
SOUTH (D)		
♠ A 3		
♥ 10 3		
♦ A 5		
♣ A K Q J 8 6 2		
North-South vul.		
♠ Pass	♠ Pass	♠ Double
♥ Pass	♥ Pass	♥ Pass
♦ Pass	♦ Pass	♦ Pass
♣ Pass	♣ Pass	♣ Pass
Opening lead—♥ Q		

support for the unbid major. On the basis of this logical reasoning, West properly decided to open hearts.

When the queen of hearts held the first trick, the situation was quite clear to West. He continued with the ace of hearts, dropping declarer's ten. Then West led his last heart, enabling his partner to win two more tricks in the suit. East thereupon cashed the ace of diamonds to defeat the contract.

When the hand was played at the other table in a team match, East bid two diamonds instead of using the takeout double. West opened a diamond, having nothing to guide him to the killing heart lead.

East could have defeated the contract still by winning the first trick with the ace of diamonds and returning a low heart, but he had no way of discovering this defence. The opening diamond lead therefore enabled declarer to make his game contract.

CARD SENSE

Q—With both sides vulnerable, the bidding has been:
North East South West
1 Dmd. 1 Spade 2 Clubs 2 Spades
Pass Pass

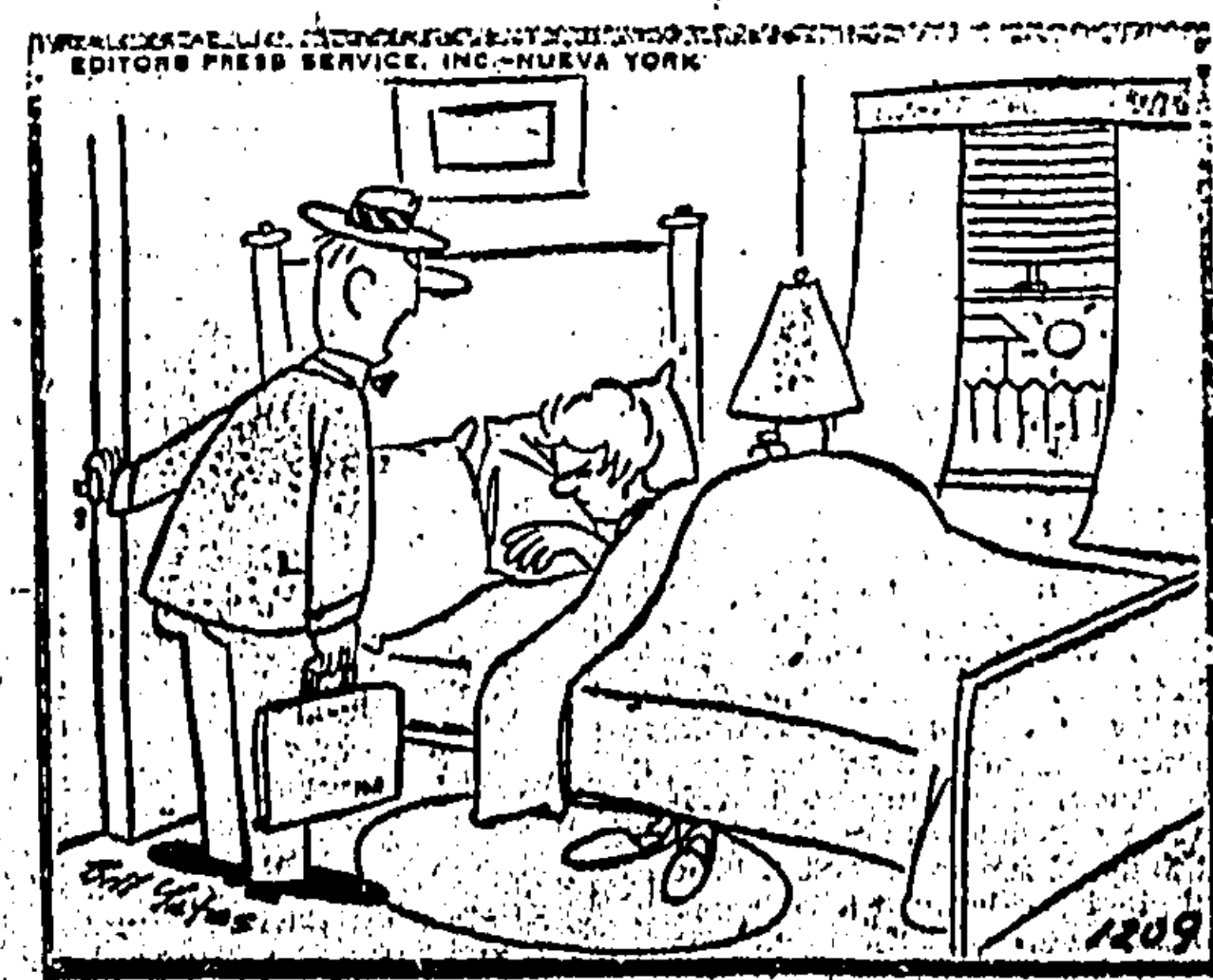
You, South, hold: Spades K-4, Hearts Q-5-3, Diamonds Q-5-2, Clubs A-K-Q-J-5. What do you do?

A—Bid three no-trump. With a spade lead, you can expect to win six tricks in your own hand, and your partner's opening bid should surely furnish three fast tricks.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades K-9-4, Hearts A-5-3-2, Diamond Q, Clubs A-K-Q-J-5. What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow

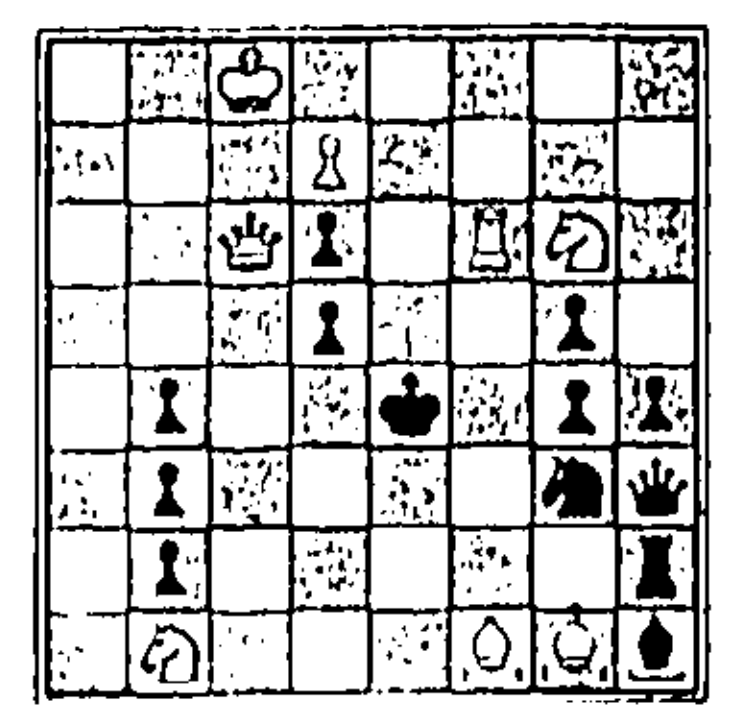


DUMB BELLS



CHESS PROBLEM

By J. ZALDO
Black, 13 pieces.



White, 8 pieces.
White to play; mate in two.
Solution to yesterday's problem:
1. Kt-K1; threat 2. Kt(R4)×P.
P-Q4; 2. Kt(K1)×P(B3).
B-Kt3; 2. R(Kt3)×P.
B-R4; 2. R(B2)×B.P.

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

BORN today, you are a reformer at heart. You will be, at least, a leader in the realm of ideas, and you may come the honour of a change in the temper of your times. You are a fluent talker and a better as well as a highly talented writer. Your critical senses are keen and you are able to tell good from bad, true from false, and genuine from spurious, especially in art. You have a great deal of wit and rather enjoy the material wherever you go. There may be an inclination to scatter your talents over too wide a field so that you do not settle down and concentrate on any one objective until you are fairly well along in life. With another person, this might defeat the ultimate best interests, but with you, it is a period of ideas incubation during which your talents grow. You have a canny business sense and a rather modest material wealth that your talents acquire for you. Fond of excitement and adventure, you are not as thrifty as you might be. Although you may make a lot of money, you'll spend most of it unless you watch out.

Among those born on this date were Ernest Hemingway and Hans Fallada, authors; Chauncey O'Leary and Arthur Treacher, actors; and Gen. David Hunter, American Civil War commander. To find what the Stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

THURSDAY, JULY 22

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—Cultivate friendship wherever you go. It can prove valuable as well as enjoyable. LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Stick to your objective with concentration. A single objective if you want immediate results. VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Keep an active and youthful outlook on life. Be progressive and energetic, no matter what your age. LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—If you are wise in your fresh-air treatment, you may acquire the sunburned, outdoor look. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)—Even if minor upsets seem to delay the execution of your plans, be amiable; they will eventually work out. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 23)—You may be able to make a saving if you buy wisely. But be sure it really is a bargain.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—You may find that a change in jobs is indicated. Think it over carefully, however, before acting. GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—You might find a good idea to expand financially. Just make sure you're not buying something you don't really want.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Check the source of any new information before you accept it and act upon it. TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—You may find that a change in jobs is indicated. Think it over carefully, however, before acting. GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—You might find a good idea to expand financially. Just make sure you're not buying something you don't really want.

On seeing Knarf and Handi, King Nep smiled. At least, he tried to smile. It wasn't very much of a smile. Then he gave up trying to smile and just sighed as he skumped down again on a mossy rock.

"Why, what's the matter, dear?" asked Handi. "Move over, please. There's plenty of room for all of us." King Nep moved over. Handi sat down on one side of him, and Knarf sat down on the other.

"Tell us your troubles," said Knarf.

"Well," said King Nep, "I've bitten up six pencils, and I still can't get it straight."

"What can't you get straight, dear?" said Handi.

"I can't get the names of the oceans straight. I'm hoping you'll be able to help me," he went on looking hopefully at Knarf and Handi. "You do know the names of the oceans, don't you?"

Knarf and Handi both nodded. "This is what happened," said King Nep. "Early this morning, I suddenly remembered that once upon a time, I had been the ruler of the oceans."

"The seven seas?" put in Knarf promptly.

King Nep shook his head. "No, it wasn't the seven seas. It was the five oceans. So I got out my notebook. And I thought I would write down the names of the five oceans. But when I wrote 'Ocean', I saw that it was already there. So I wrote 'very strange' and I gave up."

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

TWILIGHT was falling on the Bar Napoules, "Vita," said Foulenough, "people are once more coupling our names."

"As a point of interest," said Vita, "which of your names are they coupling?" "If you will marry me," replied the warrior, "I will come out, boldly under my own name." "And we could be married in prison," said Vita. "Is it your aunt who has turned you against me?" asked Foulenough. "No, it's just you," she answered. "You don't trust me?" "Who does?" she said. "Pretty well everybody round here," he replied with a grin. "The downright honesty of your beastliness," said Vita, "never ceases to amaze me. If I lost all my money at cards tomorrow you'd never bother me any more, would you?" "Not if you lost it to me," said the Captain.

At that moment a shrill-voiced girl entered the bar and shouted: "Why, if it isn't Sir Geoffrey! Will you buy me a drink?" Foulenough addressed the barman. "And me, too, dear Sir Geoffrey," said Vita. Foulenough cursed under his breath.

Tiny martyrs to progress THAT was a solemn and a beautiful moment when a member rose in the House and asked the Minister of Supply if during the recent germ-warfare tests off the Bahamas the weather had affected the germs. To expose these tiny, helpless creatures to the freaks of the weather cannot be justified.

THE really jovial tailor works with distorting mirrors. It is such fun to send customers out into the world with waistcoats down to their ankles, overcoats which end at the chest, coats with one sleeve hanging to the ground and the other tight round the elbow, and a breast pocket just above the knee.

IT IS TIME a new assessment was made of those glamorous, curvaceous film cuties who always seem to be aiming at the men.

According to the latest information, they are all simple girls at heart, just wanting what simple girls want—a husband, home, babies, the chance to cook and look after the house.

The last thing in their minds—they would have us believe—is sex appeal.

His successful career as a tailor has taught him to work with mirrors.

Just look at yourself!

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WOMANSENSE

Cuties In The Kitchen

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Appetising Foods To Fit Into Your Warm Weather Menus

IT doesn't matter how the thermometer may climb, we've got to eat. And, by the same token, Mother has to shop and prepare the victuals. The thing to do is to make the jobs as simple as possible, serving foods that give their quota of the nutritional elements that are especially necessary to well-being in the warm weather when much energy is expended.

taste-tempting suggestions. Try putting chives in mayonnaise for a cold salad topping; float thin radish slices in soup; top stuffed eggs with shrimp; sprinkle grated cheese on broiled tomato slices.

Moving into the dessert department, chocolate peppermints crushed atop ice cream are nice. Which brings us to the thought of a fine meal ending.

— Alice Denhoff

The Vanity Table

By Helen Follett

ONCE a girl has a vanity table, she'll wonder how she ever managed to apply make-up before the bathroom mirror. Grooming is a demanding task. A good mirror and proper lighting are important if a girl's to look her best.

If money is no object her vanity can be an expensive piece of furniture. If she's watching the budget, a glass-topped low table or chest of drawers with a mirror hung over it will do nicely.

There are several types of mirrors which are good for vanities. A three-way one will give a wide range of reflection. It permits a woman to see her face from the front, back and side views of herself. She can see if every ringlet of her hairdo is properly arranged.

A beautifully framed dressing table mirror is a decorative asset to the room. She can choose a frame that goes with the scheme of the setting.

Good lighting is important. A wall lamp on either side of the looking glass will throw light on her face when make-up's being applied.

One of the big advantages of a dressing table is that it keeps cosmetics conveniently together. If the table has several draw-

Cultured Pearls

FALCONER'S
OPPOSITE THE S.P.O.
HONG KONG, T.S. 111

In the spotlight

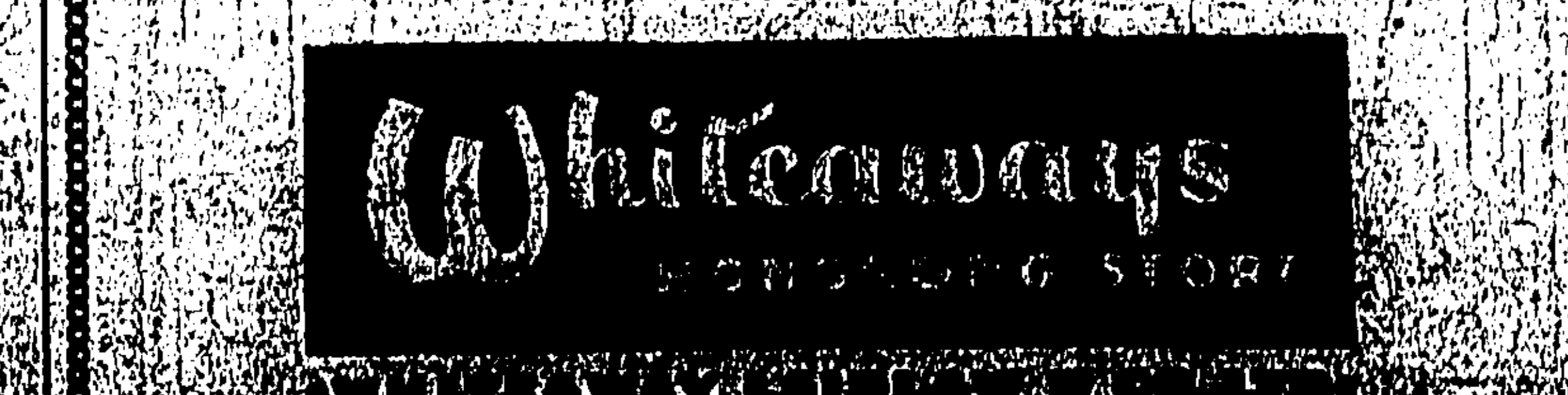


Beauty - and the Blouse

IN CRISP - COOL - BRODERIE ANGLAISE

NEVER BEFORE, HAVE BLOUSES BEEN SO DESERVEDLY POPULAR, AND NEVER BEFORE HAVE THEY BEEN SO DELIGHTFULLY ATTRACTIVE. FOR INSTANCE, TAKE THESE LOVELY BRODERIE ANGLAISE BLOUSES. WE NOW HAVE ON DISPLAY, YOU WILL BE LITERALLY THRILLED! SEE THEM TOMORROW AT OUR HONG KONG STORE.

FROM \$39.50



Whiteaways
HONG KONG STORE

By "TOUCHER"

Rinks event is the clash between the top-favourites, Johnny Ribeiro, Raoul Luz, C. E. Passos and Joe Luz and the surprise Hongkong Electric team of A. R. Minu, A. K. Minu, Bill Stoker and A. G. Gardner. The date for this match is to be fixed later.

The next and final event in the competition is a 10 mile Time Trial, to be held on Sunday, starting at 4 p.m.

Major 1/6



spending the summer in the rooming house. Frank Bradley, another owner, says he only overheard the conversation, adding to the speculation.

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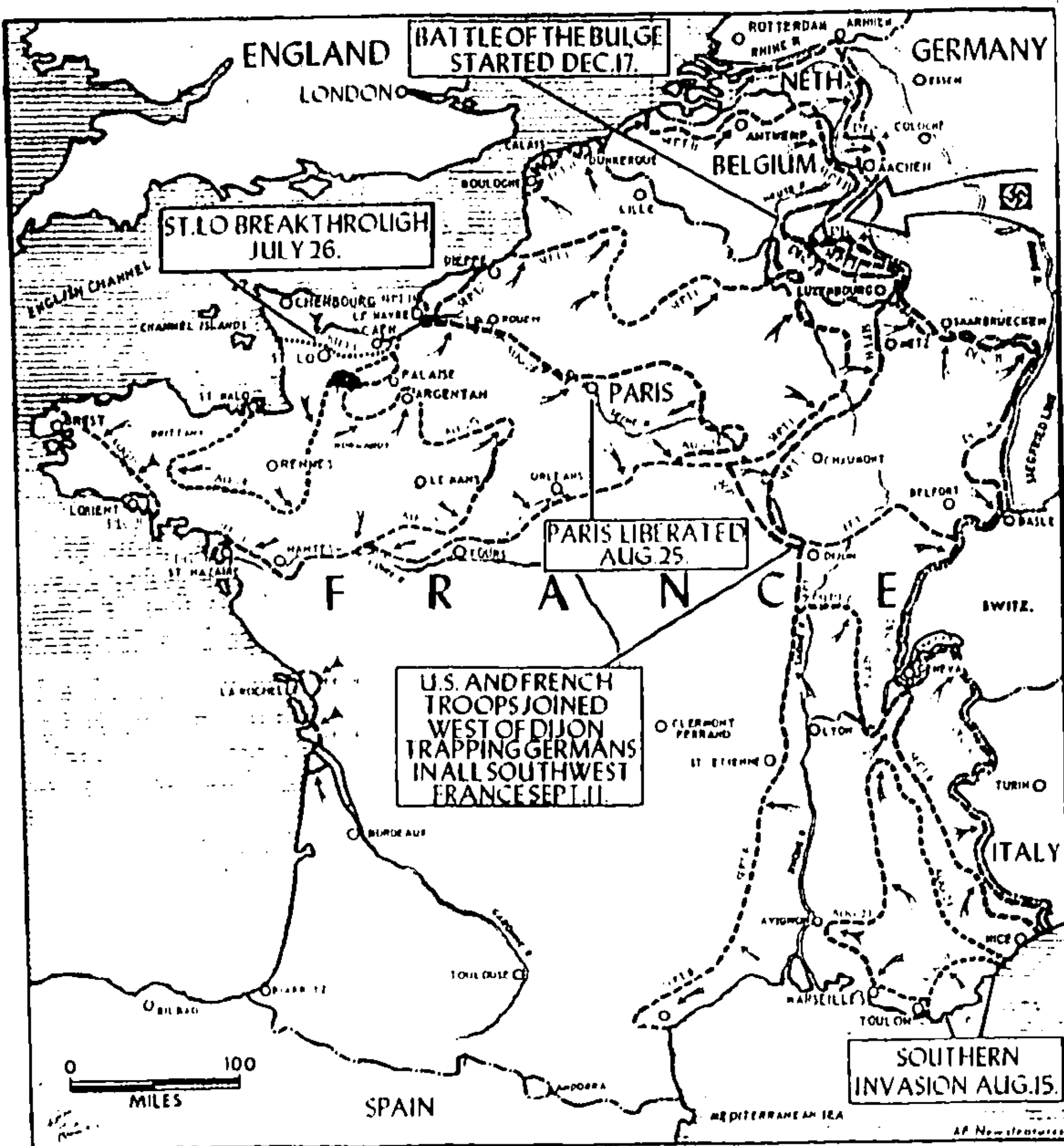
The 18 leaders in the 72 hole stroke event will qualify for the match play event on Friday.

1990

4-5-12-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1

1990

TEN YEARS AFTER



NORMANDY TO THE ARDENNES

THE DESTRUCTION OF HITLER'S FORTRESS EUROPE

Ten years ago, the Allies had only a tiny, precarious foothold in Hitler's Fortress Europe.

For more than a month expeditionary forces under Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower had been penned up in Normandy, striving desperately for room in which to manoeuvre.

American forces under Lt-Gen. Omar N. Bradley were able to swing westward up the Cotentin Peninsula and take Cherbourg from the rear on June 27, thus securing a vital port for the buildup of supplies. This could hardly have succeeded, however, without the help of British and Canadians, who drew the bitter assignment of protecting the American's rear. On July 9 they moved ahead to occupy Caen, eastern anchor of the beachhead.

As men and material poured in through Cherbourg, the Allies staged it out with the Wehrmacht in what became known as the Battle of the Hedge Rows. The fighting was savage but advances often were only a few yards a day.

As reinforcements stacked up, Eisenhower began probing the German line for weak spots. In the middle of July, he began intensive artillery preparation. On July 26 came the famous St. Lo breakthrough by Lt-Gen. George S. Patton's U.S. 3rd Army.

The Allies were off to the races.

Ten months later World War II in Europe was over, the German war machine ground to bits between the British, Canadians, Americans and French in the west and the Russians in the east.

The St. Lo breakthrough was like pulling a cork from a bottle. Allied military might, penned up for a month in the parry Normandy beachhead, burst through the gap in Nazi Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's lines in a lightning thrust.

The Brittany Peninsula was cut off. Patton's tanks raced toward Rennes, captured it and spun down the railroad and highway mainlines to Paris.

The entire Allied front began to wheel eastward, pivoting on Caen. The Germans elected to fight it out instead of retreating to the Seine. They fought stubbornly, too, and one large pocket held its position in the Argentan - Falaise gap until August 10.

Air Cover

The Allies, however, with their overwhelming air coverage, could not be stopped. Aided by the French Forces of the Interior, the underground army which went into action behind the German lines on D-Day,

they drove relentlessly towards the Seine.

By August 21 they had bridgeheads over France's historic river both above and below Paris. To the French Second Armoured Division went the honour of entering the capital on August 25.

Meanwhile, on August 15, French and American forces had landed at several points on the French Mediterranean coast. They advanced rapidly, liberated Marseilles and Toulon and by early September were far up the Rhone and Saone valleys.

With the northern Allied armies rushing eastward, vast numbers of German troops in southwestern France were in a desperate situation. They began rushing for Germany through the gap remaining in the Dijon area, but on September 11 French troops from the south joined with American troops from the north near Dijon, and the Germans in southwestern France were trapped. Many surrendered. Others had to be fought down.

A few days later, except for isolated pockets, the Germans had been driven out of all but a small part of eastern France. Now, after a series of almost lightning victories, the Allies were up against a tougher proposition.

The rolling countryside of France, suitable for tank travel, had fallen to the eastbound Allies almost as easily as it did to the westbound Germans in 1940.

Rough Country

Now the country became rougher—and there was a man-made barrier as well. This was the Siegfried Line, a shrewdly placed string of pillboxes, tank-traps and minefields stretching from Switzerland to the Netherlands. Artillery preparation, for perhaps half a mile a day on good days, became the order.

Desperate efforts were made to flank the Siegfried Line (West Wall). An airborne British - American - Polish - American - Polish army was dropped in Holland to carve out bridgeheads over the Rhine, but it failed when it could not hold the Dutch city of Arnhem.

In an effort to crack the line before winter set in, Gen. Eisenhower launched a general offensive in mid-November. The German army, however, had fortified positions around Metz, and the French took Belfort,

but the Germans did not break. The advance slowed.

Then, out of nowhere, on December 17 came a furious counter-offensive by the Germans through the Ardennes Forest—the famous Battle of the Bulge. The American 1st Army was almost chopped to bits by the 15 divisions and astonishing number of planes that German Field Marshal Karl Gerd von Rundstedt had scraped up from the bottom of the German reserve barrel.

Low water mark for the Allies came on December 26, with the bulge 60 miles deep. Next day Patton's tanks had begun to take the steam out of the German drive, and by the first of 1945 the Allies had the initiative again. As January ended, the Allies were back in position along the Siegfried line. The final drive began the following spring.

STAMP 'RACKET' FROM U.S.

London, July 20. One of London's largest firms dealing in foreign stamps are warning collectors against what they describe as "a serious racket" originating in the United States.

The firm say that "stamps" purporting to have been issued by "Free Governments"—among them "Free Croatia" and "Free Albania"—are being sent to Britain.

Mr. F. S. Wall, director of the firm, says: "It is time that we helped to make it clear that these so-called stamps are rubbish. They have been printed privately in the United States."

"Even if it is assumed that these Governments exist, there are no postal services for which the labels can be legitimately used. In no way can they be considered genuine postage stamps."

R.A.F. FUND

London, July 20. The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund has spent more than £4,000,000 on welfare services for the families and dependents of its personnel since its inception in 1919, it was announced today. China Mail Special.

Maximum Certainty Required For Convertibility

By Sydney S. Campell

London, July 20.

It is common ground in the current talks that instability of exchange rates would create uncertainty for traders and so would make nonsense of the convertibility exercise.

The sort of convertibility at which Britain is now aiming is a system of maximum certainty (though also more competition) for traders, so as to give them the best chance to expand trade (they being the only people who can do it; governments cannot).

Moreover Britain's main drive towards convertibility is by reopening and widening the U.K. commodity markets, and its success depends on their quoting the finest dealing margins. Fine margins are one of the reasons for the extraordinary success of the London gold market as soon as it was reopened on March 22. The smaller the need for exchange rate cover, the finer the margins can be.

True stability could be reconciled with a fluctuating

exchange rate, as in Canada. Present official British thinking seems to be that any widening of the present sterling fluctuation limits (which are actually narrower than the IMF permits—4% instead of the permitted 1%) would create uncertainty in the making of contracts.

"MANAGING"

Some people with great experience in these matters also point out that, in practice, a central bank which is "managing" its currency nearly always has to pick some rate which it is willing to defend at least temporarily.

The so-called floating currency then becomes a haphazard and not very satisfactory way of finding a new parity.

The present convertibility plan contemplates that wrong exchange rates (those which are out of line with internal costs and the external balance) should be put right by adjusting them; they should not be "defended" by restrictions.

If a currency is over-valued, devaluing it is recognised to be far better than restricting trade and payments to defeat it.

NO CASE

On the down side, this might have some relevance for the French franc. For sterling the adjustment would have to be upward: if there is anything wrong with sterling's present exchange rate, it is too low. But the balance of official arguments seems to be that no case has been made out for any change whatever in sterling's present exchange rate and fluctuation limits; not even for taking the small additional latitude (\$2.77-1/4 to \$2.82-3/4) that the IMF would automatically allow.

One stage in the advance towards convertibility would be to get transferable sterling quoted in London. It is not clear whether this can be done before full convertibility is reached.

Since March 22 the Bank of England has allowed transferable sterling to be traded abroad, at whatever rates the buyers and sellers may agree. It is this convertibility in practice at a small discount, and without directly draining Britain's reserves.

At or over \$2.77-1/4 it would be within the IMF limit; widening its use, as in the recent arrangements for dollar negotiability, might regard it as a multiple currency practice. The probability is that, on the day that transferable sterling can be quoted in London, sterling will be convertible.—Reuter.

Singapore Takes Serious View Of Rubber Ban

Singapore, July 20. The Singapore government takes a serious view of the Indonesian ban on the export of high grade rubber and wet slabs to Singapore, said Mr. J. R. Clegg, Director of Commerce and Industry.

He refused to elaborate except to say that the position was being investigated.

Local rubber men believe the Indonesian ban is connected with the controversial Indonesian - Chinese rubber deal, and that Indonesia is trying to get the highest price she can for her product. These sources said they believe that Indonesia is also trying to avoid Malaysian ports and is planning to sell Indonesian products direct to purchasing countries through a proposed central purchasing commission.—United Press.

RECORD BRITISH CAR EXPORTS

London, July 20. Britain exported a record total of 168,000 motor cars in the first six months of this year.

Announcing this today the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders revealed that Australia is once again Britain's best customer by far for vehicles, both cars and trucks.

Britain is exporting nearly as many cars as Western Germany—her closest rival—and the United States combined, the Society said. Output was also a record at 380,000 cars in the six months and 281,000 trucks, of which 154,000 were exported.—Reuter.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$872,941.00. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES
GOVT. (100) 25000 @ 01

BANKS
HSK Bank 1085 1000 13 @ 1000

INSURANCES
Union 065 200 @ 15.00

DOCKS, ETC.
Underwriters 7.10 40 @ 21.00

WARR.
Warr 00 00 00 @ 00.00

DOCK
Provident (O) 10.10 10.00 2750 @ 12.00

WHEELOCK 7.10 7.20 500 @ 7.20

LAND, ETC.
HK Land 9.05 9.15 4500 @ 9.10

HK Land 50.00 50.00 400 @ 50.00

Humphreys 10.10 10.40 4000 @ 2.01

Realty 2.01 2.07 5000 @ 2.05

UTILITIES
Tramway 10.10 10.10 6000 @ 10.10

Yamuk Ferry 1.40 1.40 200 @ 1.40

C. Light (O) 18.00 18.00 2300 @ 18.00

C. Light (N) 12.00 12.00 1500 @ 12.00

Electric 3.15 3.2 82 @ 3.15

Macro Elec. 11 1700 @ 31.25

Telephone 21.20 200 @ 21.10

INDUSTRIALS
Cement 21.70 21.00 1700 @ 21.00

Stores, ETC.
Dairy 25.00 25.10 3200 @ 25.10

Wagon (N) 21.00 21.00 600 @ 21.00

COTTONS
Crawford 23.15 23.00 4000 @ 23.00

Textile Corp 7.50 7.50 500 @ 7.50

MISCELLANEOUS
Yangtze 4.05 4.10 1050 @ 4.10

Allied 2.00 2.00 2000 @ 4.07 1/2

WORLD SUGAR MARKETS

New York, July 20.

World No. 4 sugar futures today closed unchanged to 3 points higher with sales of 237 contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed 1 point lower to 1 point higher with sales of 23 contracts.

World futures ruled steady as traders awaited news from the Cuban Sugar Institute on possible measures to bolster the sagging world raw market.

Havana trade reports said government officials would hold another meeting with institute officers today.

Dealers meanwhile reported the Canary Islands bought 10,000 tons of Cuban refined sugar.

Domestic futures were dull with a small interest centred in the September delivery. Future closings:

Contract No. 4 (world)

Sept. 3.14

Oct. 3.14

Nov. 3.14

Dec. 3.14

Jan. 3.14

Feb. 3.14

Mar. 3.14

Apr. 3.14

May 3.14

June 3.14

July 3.14

Aug. 3.14

Sept. 3.14

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June 3.14

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